

## WEEKLY UPDATE

NEWPORT CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY
NEWPORT CHEMICAL DEPOT



NECDF Chemical Disposal Operations October 26 2005

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Steel Container Transport

#### **Newport Milestones/Facts**

#### Milestone Dates

- 1962-1968: Newport manufactures all chemical agent VX for U.S. defense stockpile
- 1969: President Richard Nixon issues a unilateral decree halting production and transport of chemical weapons, including last two lots of VX produced at Newport
- 1999: Army awards systems contract to Parsons Corporation of Pasadena, Calif. to design, construct and operate NECDF -
- 2003: Construction complete
- 2005: Agent destruction operations begin May 5, 2005



Chemical Agent Transfer System

## Using neutralization technology, NECDF has safely destroyed:

Approximately 50,842 pounds of chemical agent VX (approximately 6,035 gallons)

Activities: NECDF continues the safe destruction of chemical agent VX. Approximately 6,035 gallons of agent have been safely neutralized since the start of operations in May of this year. The site has now demonstrated the successful destruction of all agent stabilizer combinations. Forty empty agent containers have been processed through the steel container decontamination system.



Neutralization Reactor

#### Continuing the Legacy of Safety

The Newport team continues to build upon their legacy of safety—from chemical agent manufacture and shipment in the 1960s, to nearly 40 years of safe storage, to the start of agent destruction operations. By safely eliminating Newport's chemical agent stockpile, the workers at NECDF will remove the risk posed by continued storage of the stockpile. The United States will be safer due to the efforts of the Newport team.



Carbon Filtration Units

- Our top priority remains the safety of the surrounding communities, site personnel and environment.
- During start-up, deliberate actions and thorough review of data will be conducted to verify performance before increasing production rates.
- Processing areas are ventilated and maintained under negative pressure. Air drawn from these areas is controlled, monitored and filtered through carbon units before being released into the environment in order to meet state and federal clean air standards.
- Monitoring air within the depot is a vital part of processing chemical agent. More than 70 chemical agent monitors are placed in and around the facility, with approximately 4,000 samples taken daily.

#### Public Affairs:

Terry Arthur NECD/NECDF Public Affairs (765) 245-4475

Ginger Corado Parsons Public Affairs and Outreach Manager (765) 245-5831

Susan Gilman Newport Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office Manager (765) 492-4445

Newport Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office 140 S. Main Street Newport, Indiana 47966 Ph: (765) 492-4445 Fax: (765) 492-4475 Toll Free: (866) 300-9034

Outreach Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday (Evening hours available by appointment)

### Newport stockpile consists of:



Liquid chemical agent VX housed in steel containers